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## I T E M P R O O F

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HEADLINE: UK Paper: Ill-Prepared Summits Failure Not a Disaster  
 SOURCELINE: "London THE INDEPENDENT in English 13 Oct 86 p 16  
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UK Paper: 'Ill-Prepared' Summit's Failure 'Not a Disaster'{q1}  
 {&f3}PM131015 London THE INDEPENDENT in English 13 Oct 86 p 16{q1}  
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[Editorial: {em } 'One Slip on a Very Long Road' ]{ep}

[Text] Orthodox opinion has long been that you do not call  
 a summit unless you have everything from the agenda to the final  
 press notices tied up in advance. {ep}

Orthodox opinion had the right of it in Reykjavik this  
 weekend. The Russians proposed this ill-prepared occasion as  
 part of the resolution to the Daniloff affair. President Reagan  
 was all but bounced into it, to the distress of many of his more  
 sophisticated advisers and many of the most experienced East-West

negotiators of the last two decades. It was not merely the far Right which 'twitched and hollered'. The Soviet Union, having bounced the President into what he insisted upon calling a pre-summit or a 'base camp' for the much grander occasion, originally pencilled in for Washington towards the end of the year, then attempted to up the stakes. (ep)

On Saturday came Mr Gorbachev's unexpected tabling of a revised arms-control package, designed, above all, to circumscribe Star Wars research. THE pressure increased yesterday with Soviet leaks and comments to the general effect that what the ubiquitous Mr Georgiy Arbatov described as an 'historic offer of enormous importance' had been made. (ep)

The aim was clearly to to get an elderly gentleman, with no great grasp of the technicalities and a desire to go down in the history books as a peacemaker into a cosy corner and there to talk him round. (ep)

It failed and the first sign that it was bound to fail came when Mr Caspar Weinberger's superhawk deputy Mr Richard Perle, joined the working party on arms control. (He dreads the very concept as being inimical to American interests). The second was when the President insisted upon a parallel working party to mull over such choice items as the persecution of Soviet Jewry, Afghanistan and the fate of those who dared monitor earlier American-Soviet agreements. (ep)

It is easy today to see the virtual collapse of this summit that never should have been as a major international disaster. It is not. It is confirmation that the President of the United States, lame duck or not, is not to be pushed

around It is an indication that the Geneva talks will  
continue (em-) as both sides promised within hours of the  
great Icelandic freeze. It must also have been a severe  
blow to Mr Gorbachev's domestic prestige. He is the one  
above all who insisted that detente was worth playing for. He is  
the one who said that results will come. So they can. But  
not

under unreal pressure in ill-prepared meetings. (ep)

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